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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/708,636	03/17/2004	Chang-Lien Wu	REAP0049USA	2635
27765	7590	03/15/2006	EXAMINER	
NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION P.O. BOX 506 MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			KIM, HONG CHONG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2185	

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/708,636

Applicant(s)

WU ET AL.

Examiner

Hong C. Kim

Art Unit

2185

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/19/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Detailed Action**

1. Claims 1-12 are presented for examination. This office action is in response to the application filed on 3/17/2004.
2. The status of the referenced U.S. applications must be updated accordingly (e.g., U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ####,### filed Sept. 07, 1990, now abandoned; ..., now U.S. Patent #,###,### issued Jan. 01, 1994; or This application is a continuation of Serial Number ####,###, filed on December 01, 1990, now abandoned; ...etc.) in the Related Applications section and in any other corresponding area in the specification, if any.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 3/19/04 is being considered by the examiner.

***Specification***

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The title should be more specific to differentiate the invention from similar inventions in the patent literature. "BIST" and "linked list" aspect of the invention should be mentioned in the title so that the title is more descriptive.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al. (Kim) US Patent No. 6,781,898 or rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Chin US Patent Pub. No. 2003/0145250.

As to claim 1, Kim discloses a method for forming a linked list (col. 2 lines 8+ and Fig. 2 Ref. 170) with a memory in an electronic device (col. 1 line 23) , comprising: performing a built-in self test (BIST) on the memory (Fig. 2 Refs 172 and 182); and forming the linked list according to a result of the BIST (col. 6 lines 36-44); wherein if the memory includes a defective section, the linked list does not have a correspondence to the defective section (col. 6 lines 36-44).

Alternatively, Chin discloses a method for forming a linked list (Fig. 3) with a memory in an electronic device (block 4), comprising: performing a built-in self test (BIST) on the memory; and forming the linked list according to a result of the BIST (block 11); wherein if the memory includes a defective section, the linked list does not have a correspondence to the defective section (blocks 12-15).

As to claim 2, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses storing the result of the BIST into a test result memory (Fig. 2 Refs. 150 & 166 and Fig. 3 Ref. 222).

As to claim 3, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses the linked list is dynamically updated as long as the defective section is detected through performing the BIST on the memory (col. 6 lines 36-45).

As to claim 4, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses the memory, which the BIST is performed on, is a header table ( Fig. 2 Ref. 17 and Figs. 1a & 1b) for storing the linked list.

As to claim 5, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses the memory, which the BIST is performed on, is a packet buffer (Fig. 2 Ref. 180) which the linked list points to.

As to claim 6, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses the electronic device is a switch (col. 1 lines 11 and 23-24).

As to claim 7, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further

discloses the electronic device is a router (col. 1 lines 11 and 23-24).

As to claim 8, Kim discloses a method for forming a linked list (col. 2 lines 8+ and Fig. 2 Ref. 170) with a memory in an electronic device (col. 1 line 23), comprising: performing a built-in self test (BIST) (Fig. 2 Ref. 172) on a header table (Fig. 1 Ref. 170) of the electronic device; performing a BIST (Fig. 2 Refs. 182 and 192) on a packet buffer (Fig. 2 Refs. 180 and 190) of the electronic device; and forming the linked list of the electronic device according to at least a result of the BISTs (col. 5 lines 39-55); wherein if at least one of the header table and the packet buffer includes a defective storage portion, the linked list does not have a correspondence to the defective storage portion (col. 6 lines 36-46).

As to claim 9, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses storing the result of the BIST into a test result memory (Fig. 2 Refs. 150 & 166 and Fig. 3 Ref. 222).

As to claim 10, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses the linked list is dynamically updated (col. 2 lines 41-50, automated process reads on this limitation) as long as the defective storage portion is detected through performing the BIST on the header table or the packet buffer.

As to claim 11, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further

discloses the electronic device is a switch (col. 1 lines 11 and 23-24).

As to claim 12, Kim discloses the invention as claimed above. Kim further discloses the electronic device is a router (col. 1 lines 11 and 23-24).

### ***Conclusion***

1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached PTO-892.
2. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 USC 133, MPEP 710.02, 710.02(b)).
3. When responding to the office action, Applicant is advised to clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. He or she must also show how the amendments avoid such references or objections. See 37 C.F.R. ' 1.111(c).
4. When responding to the office action, Applicants are advised to provide the examiner with the line numbers and page numbers in the application and/or references cited to assist examiner to locate the appropriate paragraphs.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hong Kim whose telephone number is (571) 272-4181. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matt Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

7. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to TC-2100:**  
571-273-8300



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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window (Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314).

HK  
Primary Patent Examiner  
March 9, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'H' followed by a 'K' and a horizontal flourish.